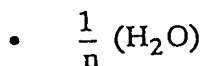
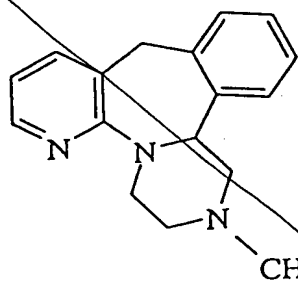


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- B
- 5
1. Low-hygroscopic anhydrous mirtazapine crystals having a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours.
 2. The anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 1, wherein said anhydrous mirtazapine crystals have a water content of not more than 0.5% by weight.
 3. A process for preparing anhydrous mirtazapine crystals having a hygroscopic degree of not more than 0.6% by weight when the crystals are stored in the air having a relative humidity of 75% at 25°C under atmospheric pressure for 500 hours, comprising drying crystals of a mirtazapine hydrate.
 4. The process for preparing anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 3, wherein the mirtazapine hydrate is pulverized, and thereafter the mirtazapine hydrate is dried.
 5. The process for preparing anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 3, wherein the crystal of the mirtazapine hydrate is represented by the formula (I):
- 10
- 15
- 20
- 31

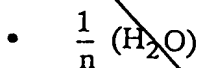
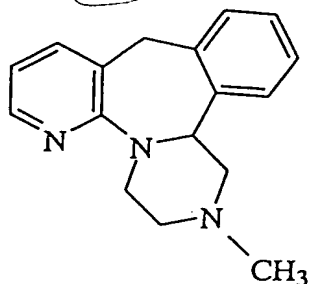


(I)

wherein n is an integer of 1 to 5.

6. The process for preparing anhydrous mirtazapine crystals according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the crystals of a mirtazapine hydrate are heated under reduced pressure to dry the crystals.

A crystal of a mirtazapine hydrate represented by the formula (I):



(I)

wherein n is an integer of 1 to 5.

8. A process for preparing crystals of a mirtazapine hydrate, comprising crystallizing a crude mirtazapine using a water-soluble organic solvent and water.

9. The process for preparing crystals of a mirtazapine hydrate according to claim 8, wherein the crude mirtazapine is crystallized from a mixed solvent of a water-soluble organic solvent and water.

~~B~~

~~B~~

11. The process for preparing crystals of a mirtazapine hydrate according to claim 10, wherein water is added to the solution prepared by dissolving the crude mirtazapine in the water-soluble organic solvent with adjusting the temperature of the solution to 0° to 30°C.

10

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